



Weekly Newsletter – Wednesday, 1st April 2020

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carers and Children,

The end of Term 4 has arrived and what an unusual one it is. I wonder if you are all still aware of the pattern of the school year now that we have entered this period of unexpected home-schooling?

Home Learning

We have had some positive feedback from parents and children about the learning tasks which have been set. We have also had some queries and concerns. As you will appreciate, we are all feeling our way with this new way of working and I thank you all for your patience and support.

The next set of home learning – for the period 16th – 24th April will be posted on the school website on Wednesday 15th April.

Well-being

The most important message I feel I can give you all at the moment is please do not worry about school work – these are extraordinary times. The dynamic of all of our families has changed; looking after each other's well-being has to be our priority at the moment. Please do not let school work be a source of angst in your homes; do what feels right for you and your child. Setting a routine for the day will help your child to manage their time and reduces anxiety. You will all know how rigid the school day is – learning interspersed with a break, a drink or snack is the best approach.

During the Easter holiday please don't do any school work – you and your children will appreciate this being a distinctly different type of time to that during the term. Let's hope for dry weather so getting into the garden or out for a daily walk can be a feature of all of our days; my garden has never been so well weeded!

Summer Term

As it stands at the moment we do not know whether we will be returning to school before the end of this academic year. Once we get past the Easter break we will turn our thoughts to how we will honour our Class 6 leavers if we do not come together again – I have already received some good ideas from one of our parents about this.

Staying in Touch

Do please use the class email accounts (during term-time) to maintain contact with your child's teacher.

Alternatively you can contact me on headteacher@st-margarets-dover.kent.sch.uk or Mrs Hindle on r.hindle@st-margarets-dover.kent. Mrs Hindle and I will be taking it in turns over the Easter break to be 'on duty' as we continue to provide childcare at school for the children of critical workers. Thanks are due to the staff who have volunteered to run this provision in their holiday.

First News

Please see attached which you might like to share with your child(ren).

Free School Meal Vouchers

Those of you entitled to means tested free school meals (which is different to the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme which provides a free meal for YR, 1 and 2) will have received a supermarket voucher this week which we organised ahead of the Government scheme being announced. Following the Easter break we will be using the national scheme. More details about this as term starts.

Thank you

To all of you who are continuing to do your jobs – either at your place of work or from home – whilst juggling family responsibilities

Happy and healthy Easter to you all.

Helen Comfort

